

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NIAMEY 02152 271622Z

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ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SCI-06 PC-10 USIA-15 IO-14

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 AGR-20 INT-08

COME-00 SWF-02 DRC-01 /118 W

----- 054468

R 271515Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8231

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID NG

SUBJECT: NEWSWEEK STORY ON DROUGHT

REF: DAKAR 3506 AND PREVIOUS

1. JAFFE OF NEWSWEEK SPENT JUNE 22 - 25 IN NIGER TALKING TO AMBASSADOR, RDO AND STAFF, VOLAG REPS AND ROTIVAL OF UNDP. HE SNEAKED A QUICK TRIP BY AIR TO TCHIN-TABARADEN AND VISITED RELIEF CAMPS THERE, BUT HE SHOULD BE PROTECTED ON THIS OUTING BECAUSE HE TRAVELLED WITHOUT GON PERMISSION. HE TOLD US MATERIAL HE WAS COLLECTING WAS FOR NEWSWEEK COVER STORY ON DROUGHT EARLY IN JULY.

2. JAFFE ARRIVED WITH SERIES OF LOADED QUESTIONS BUT LEFT APPARENTLY SATISFIED THAT THINGS WERE GOING REASONABLY WELL. HE CHECKED IN AT EMBASSY JUST BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE TO REPORT HIS CONCLUSIONS TO
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PAGE 02 NIAMEY 02152 271622Z

EFFECT THAT A) FAO/OSRO'S APPROACH TO SAHEL DROUGHT WAS

SLUGGISH AND BUREAUCRATIC, B) US PERFORMANCE WAS SATISFACTORY EVEN THOUGH GRAIN DELIVERIES WERE LATE IN GETTING HERE, AND C) STARVATION SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN AVERTED BUT HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITIONS IN CAMPS ARE BAD AND MORE SHOULD BE DONE ON HEALTH FRONT. HE MENTIONED SEEING PEOPLE AT CAMPS WHO WERE NOT DYING BECAUSE OF LACK OF FOOD BUT WHO IN WEAKENED CONDITION WERE EASY VICTIMS OF DISEASES AND DIARRHEA, WHICH CLAIMING VICTIMS DAILY.

3. COMMENT: JAFFEE WAS NERVOUS AT BEGINNING BECAUSE OF ARTICLE HE HAD WRITTEN AT TIME OF COUP WHICH WAS CRITICAL OF NEW GOVERNMENT. AFTER MEETING WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS HE REPORTED NO ONE HELD THIS AGAINST HIM. HE LEFT SATISFIED WITH USG DROUGHT OPERATIONS HERE.
HECK

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Markings:

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30 JUN 2005

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